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DEPARTMENT OF
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Tracie L. Billington, P.E.
Division of Planning & Local Assistance
Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213-A
Sacramento CA 94236-0001

Scott Couch
Division of Financial Assistance
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 16th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: DWR and SWRCB Recommendation to Fund Proposition 50 IRWMP
Implementation Grant Applications**

Dear Ms. Billington and Mr. Couch:

Colusa County Board of Supervisors and its Groundwater Management Commission support the recommendation of Department of Water Resources (DWR) and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff to partially fund the remaining Step 2 applications for Proposition 50, Chapter 8 Implementation Grant funding.

In December, the Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan was formally adopted under Water Code Section 10541 by eighteen public agencies. To date, over 40 water districts and companies have adopted the IRWMP and six counties have adopted support resolutions. In addition, conservation and landowner organizations active in the Sacramento Valley have sent letters of support. Although the Sacramento Valley will need significantly more funding to fully implement the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), the \$12.5 million recommended for the Northern California Joint Exercise of Powers (NCJEP) proposal would provide much needed assistance to advance integrated water management in the Sacramento Valley.

Funding the NCJEP application would allow a number of different projects providing local, regional and statewide benefits to move forward. In addition, it would assist Sacramento Valley IRWMP participants in their efforts to advance the objectives in the

IRWMP, which are to: improve the economic health of the region; improve regional water supply reliability for local water users, the region, and California; improve flood protection and floodplain management; improve and enhance water quality; and, protect and enhance the ecosystem.

Colusa County, its Board of Supervisors and its Groundwater Management Commission, support the staff recommendations to fund the remaining Step 2 Implementation Grant applications and direct \$12.5 million to the NCJEP proposal.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Stephen Hackney, AICP
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